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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Cliff Stearns House of Representatives 1123 Longworth Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Stearns:

This is in reply to your letter of February 5, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituents, Robert D. White and Alfred H. Watson, Jr. regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the <u>Notice</u> reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the <u>Notice</u>, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the <u>Notice</u> that describes the numerous proposals.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituents' concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the <u>Notice</u> are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituents to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Stincerely.

Ralph A. Haller

Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Order
Discussion paper
cc:
Chief, PRBureau
Chief, LM&MDivison
Docket Files, Room 222

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R White & A	Watson inq.	comments on PR I	Oocket 92-235	
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CLIFF STEARNS

6TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

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Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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REPLY TO:

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January 28, 1993

Assigned to _______ Post Card _____ Response Code ______ ogged in _____

The Honorable Clifford B. Stearns 1123 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Stearns:

Subject: PR Docket 92-235

As a radio control model airplane enthusiast, I find it necessary to bring to your attention my concerns relative to rules changes proposed by the Federal Communications Commission in PR Docket 92-235.

I feel that if adopted, these new rules will greatly reduce the safe usability of frequencies assigned to remote control model aircraft. Only 19 of the 50 frequencies presently assigned for our hobby will be usable; these frequencies will become congested greatly decreasing our margin of safety. The proposed addition of land mobile frequencies will be acquired by splitting the 72 - 76 MHz band into narrower bandwidths allowing the more powerful mobile transmitters to bleed over into the bands used for model aircraft. If this occurs, it would cause model aircraft to crash possibly causing both physical and property damage, not to mention the expense of repairing or replacing the model aircraft.

Please help me and many hundreds of thousands of other modelers to continue to safely enjoy our hobby by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposed changes for the 72 - 76 MHz band.

Sincerely, foliated while

Robert D. White 15810 Susanne Drive

Tavares, FL 32778

Jan. 28,1993

To United States House Of Representative Mr. Clifford B. Stearns

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